Memorandum of Understanding

Between

Mattu University

and

Armauer Hansen

Research Institute

Sponsored By The Government of Ethiopia Norway & Sweden

Armauer Hansen Research Institute

January, 2024

Mattu, Ethiopia

Background Information

This Memorandum of Understanding (hereinafter referred to as "MOU") is established between Mattu University (MaU) and Armauer Hansen Research Institute (AHRI). Together, the institute and the university hereafter jointly are called the "parties" and individually a "party".

WHEREAS Mattu University (MaU) is one of the Universities located in the southwest part of Ethiopia. Mattu University's mission is to produce competent entrepreneurial as well as employable graduates and provide need-based community services and demand-driven/problem-solving research outputs through relevant and quality education, and research. MaU conducts health research in different thematic areas and crosscutting health issues. The University aspires to make a difference in the quality of training, research, and healthcare service provision in the country by prioritizing research, student-centered training, and patient-centered healthcare delivery.

WHEREAS The Armauer Hansen Research Institute (AHRI) was founded in 1970 through the initiative of the Norwegian and Swedish Save the Children organizations seconded by the Ministry of Health of Ethiopia. The Institute got its name from the Norwegian physician, Gerhard Henrik Armauer Hansen, who first described the leprosy bacillus (Mycobacterium leprae). AHRI focuses on the research and development of biomedical, clinical, vaccine, diagnostic, and diagnostic equipment, traditional and modern medicine research, and the development of the pharmaceutical industry.

NOW THEREFORE, the parties, as participants in this MOU, are set for the following:

1. Purpose

The intent of this Memorandum of Understanding **MOU** is to build consensus between MaU and AHRI, enhance collaboration in the fields of education, research, training, and dissemination of information. It also aims for the exchange of expertise from both sides to foster academic and research outcomes.

2. Objectives of the MOU

The objectives of this MoU are the following:

- To collaborate on capacity building in the areas of research and research training.
- Joint Research cooperation and Grant Application.
- Joint Publications
- To improve evidence generation, synthesis, and implementation in the form of evidence-informed decisions, developing policy briefs, issue briefs, technical briefs, standards, etc.
- Joint data generation and sharing
- To collaborate on traditional and modern medicine research

3. Responsibilities of Mattu University (MaU)

- Assign responsible personnel/coordinators of the collaboration.
- Supports AHRI in facilitating its research in Ilu Aba Bor zone.
- Nominates MaU staff(s)/graduate student(s) to receive training by AHRI.
- Open joint graduate programs with AHRI
- Conduct joint research conferences, forums, and dissemination workshops with AHRI.
- Select staff and graduate students for exchange programs
- Develop protocols, standards of procedures, guidelines, directives, and policies about research and laboratory works aiming for high quality and safety.

4. Responsibilities of Armauer Hansen Research Institute (AHRI)

- Support or develop research and laboratory systems and conduct impactful research.
- Facilitate Trainings to the staff and graduate students of the University to do advanced research and laboratories.
- Facilitate staff and graduate students exchange program at its headquarters and its local and international partners
- Covers the cost of its researchers and supportive staff working at MaU and its affiliated sites.

- Conduct joint research conferences, forums, dissemination workshops, and publications.
- Support postgraduate programs (Master, PhD, Postdoc, specialty, and subspecialty accordingingly) of the MaU
- Open joint graduate programs with MaU
- Support the development of protocols, standards of procedures, guidelines, directives, policies about research and laboratory works
- Network MaU with national and international organizations/institutions /funders/experts, etc.

5. General Agreement between MaU and AHRI

- MaU and AHRI will do periodic monitoring and evaluation.
- Joint research publications and research outputs/innovations/patents/copyrights that will arise from MaU and its affiliated sites/satellite centers will govern by MaU legislations/by laws/directives.

6. Duration, Termination and Amendment of the Agreement

6.1 Duration. This MOU shall remain in force for five (5) years from the date of the last signature. Either Party may terminate this MOU by providing 90 days advance written notice to the other Party.

6.2. Extension and Renewal. The Parties may extend or renew this MOU by agreement, confirmed in a written amendment signed by each Party's authorized signatory 60 days before the expiry of the MOU.

6.3. Amendment. No amendment of the terms of this MOU will be effective unless made in writing and signed by each Party's authorized signatory.

7. Confidentiality

The Parties agree that there is no intention to share any confidential or proprietary information in any collaboration under this MOU.

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8. Assessment

Programs and activities should be reported and assessed upon completion. The Parties will also hold periodic meetings to review developments or other changes that may impact the contents of this MOU.

9. Implementation

This MOU shall take effect on the day when authorized representatives of both Parties affix their signatures to this document.

10. SIGNATURE and DATE

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, The Parties in this MOU through their duly authorized representatives have executed this MOU on the days and dates set out below, and certify that they have read, understood, and agreed to the terms and conditions of this MOU as set forth herein.

Signed for and on behalf of

Mattu University, Ethiopia

Name **Endegena Abebe Gemta (PhD)**

President

Signature _____

Date: Jan. 2/2024

Signed for and on behalf of

Armauer Hansen Research Institute, Ethiopia

Name **Prof. Afework Kassu Gizaw**

Director General

Signature _____

Date: January 2/2024

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Armauer Hansen Research Institute